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Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 06003 240140Z

43
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OES-06 DLOS-04 SAL-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 /075 W
---------- 087714
R 231310Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5507
INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 6003

FOLLOWING REPEAT MADRAS 734 SENT ACTION NEW DELHI
INFO BOMBAY/CALCUTTA 23 APR 76.

QUOTE:

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PINS, IN, TW
SUBJ: MORE ON SEIZURE OF TAIWANESE TRAWLERS

REF: MADRAS 721

1. NAVAL AND CIVIL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE INTRUSION OF THE TAIWANESE TRAWLERS INTO INDIAN WATERS REPORTED REFTEL PRESENTLY UNDERWAY AFTER A PRELIMINARY CHECK APRIL 22 DISCLOSED "NO CONTRABAND" ABOARD EITHER OF THEM. CAPTAIN D.B. MOHINDRA, NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, MADRAS, TOLD NEWSMEN THATTHE TRAWLERS WERE EQUIPPED WITH MODERN NAVIGATIONAL AIDS, AND EACH HAD A DIRECTION FINDER "NOT NEEDED AT ALL IN A FISHING BOAT." THIS "SEEMS SUSPICIOUS" TO MOHINDRA. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE INTRUSION INTO INDIAN WATERS "WAS DELIBERATE" SINCE WITH THEIR SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT, THE TRAWLERS "SHOULD HAVE KNOW THEY WERE IN INDIA WATERS."
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2. THE CAPTAIN OF THE HWA KAU NO. 1. INFORMED NEWSMEN THROUGH AN INTERPRETER THAT THE TRAWLERS HAD LEFT KAO HSIONG PORT IN TAIWAN ON MARCH 20 WITH RATIONS, FUEL, ETC. FOR 70 DAYS. FISH IS MORE PLENTIFUL IN INDIAN WATERS THAN IN TAIWANESE WATERS HE SAID, AND THE TWO TRAWLERS INTENDED TAKING THEIR CATCHES BACK TO TAIWAN. FISHING IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS IS THE MAIN OCCUPATION OF THE TAIWANESE, ACCORDING TO THE CAPTAIN. HE FURTHER CLAIMED THAT THE TRAWLERS WERE FISHING WELL WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL WATERS.

3. ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL PRESS ACCOUNTS, THE INVESTIGATION WILL INCLUDE EXAMINATION OF WHETHER IT IS ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE FOR THE TRAWLERS TO FISH HERE. ACCORDING TO RELIABLE SOURCES QUOTED IN THE PRESS, THE TRAWLERS SPEND NEARLY RS 8,000 A DAY ON FUEL AND MAINTENANCE, WHILE THEIR STORAGE CAPACITY FOR THEIR CATCH IS ONLY 384 TONS.
MCCASKILL

UNQUOTE.
SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 23 APR 1976
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